

I CLAIM AS MY INVENTION:

1. A device for fixing a head of a patient in a medical imaging examination device, comprising:

a fixing arrangement adapted to interact with a head of a patient to fix a position of the head; and

an acoustic signal emitter integrated into said fixing arrangement adapted to emit an acoustical signal perceivable by the patient.

2. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said fixing arrangement is adjustable relative to the head of the patient.

3. A device as claimed in claim 2 wherein said fixing arrangement comprises a frame and fixing elements adapted to interact with the head of the patient, and respective threaded spindles, mounted to the frame, for adjusting the respective fixing elements.

4. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said fixing arrangement comprises soundproofing for preventing sounds originating from an exterior of the fixing device to be perceivable by the patient.

5. A head fixing device as claimed in claim 4 wherein said fixing arrangement comprises ear enclosures, and wherein said ear enclosures comprise soundproofing material.

6. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said acoustic signal emitter is a headphone.

7. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said acoustic signal emitter is a stethoscope-type headphone with pneumatic sound transmission.

8. A device as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a sound source connected to said acoustic signal emitter.

9. A device as claimed in claim 1 comprising an air tube connecting said sound source to said acoustic signal emitter.

10. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said medical imaging examination device has a patient positioning device, and wherein said air tube is adapted to be integrated into said patient positioning device.

11. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said fixing arrangement and said acoustic signal emitter are compatible for use in magnetic resonance tomography.

12. A device as claimed in claim 1 further comprising shielding for said fixing arrangement that suppresses electric magnetic transmission into and out of said fixing arrangement.

13. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said fixing arrangement and said acoustic sound emitter are substantially free of electrically conductive materials.

14. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said fixing arrangement and said acoustic signal emitter are substantially free of magnetic materials.

15. A medical imaging examination device comprising:
a patient positioning device adapted to receive a patient thereon;
a fixing arrangement disposed on said patient positioning device
adapted to interact with a head of the patient to fix a position of
the head of the patient on the patient positioning device; and
an acoustic signal emitter integrated into said fixing arrangement.

16. A medical imaging examination device as claimed in claim 15 comprising a sound-transmitting channel proceeding from said acoustic signal emitter and integrated in said patient positioning device.